

IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**PATENT APPLICATION**

Applicant: **Rafferty, Richard A.**

Case: **VM/002**

Serial No.: **10/579,426**

Filed: **May 12, 2006**

Examiner: **Le, Huyen D.**

Group Art Unit: **2615**

Confirmation No.: **7883**

Title: **HEARING AID THAT FACILITATES REMOVAL OF EARWAX AND  
TRAPPING OF MOISTURE**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

**RESPONSE ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 12, 2009, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 12, 2010, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Applicant believes that an RCE and a one month extension of time fee is due in connection with this response, which is being paid via credit card. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-3562 for any other fees, including extension of time fees or excess claims fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.